



DOCKET NO.: E0295.70066US00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

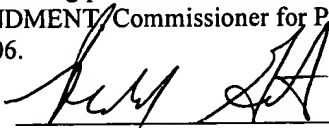
Applicant: Steven M. Blumenau et al.  
Serial No.: 09/107,618  
Confirmation No.: 8313  
Filed: June 30, 1998  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING DATA  
MANAGEMENT FOR A STORAGE SYSTEM COUPLED  
TO A NETWORK

Examiner: Dinh, Dung C.  
Art Unit: 2152

---

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT/Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 17 day of July, 2006.

  
Richard F. Giunta, Reg. No. 36,149

---

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicants request consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

**PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97**

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed more than three months after the filing date of this application and after the mailing date of the first Office action, but before the mailing date of any final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application.

The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is enclosed.

1053540.1

07/20/2006 RHEBRAHT 00000078 09107618

01 FC:1806

180.00 DP

PART II: Information Cited

The Applicants hereby make of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified PTO/SB/08). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

PART III: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 (modified PTO/SB/08) be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his or her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

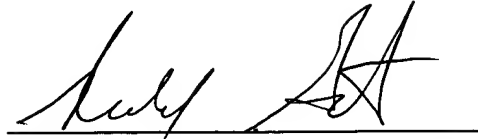
Serial No.: 09/107,618  
Conf. No.: 8313

- 3 -

Art Unit: 2152

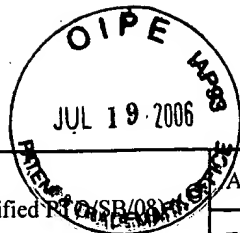
Respectfully submitted,

By:



Richard F. Giunta, Reg. No. 36,149  
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.  
600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206  
Telephone: (617) 646-8000

Docket No.: E0295.70066US00  
Date: 07/17/06  
**xNDDx**



FORM PTO-1449/A and B (modified PTO/SB/08)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Sheet 1 of 1

|                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| APPLICATION NO.: 09/107,618          | ATTY. DOCKET NO.: E0295.70066US00 |
| FILING DATE: June 30, 1998           | CONFIRMATION NO.: 8313            |
| APPLICANT: Steven M. Blumenau et al. |                                   |
| GROUP ART UNIT: 2152                 | EXAMINER: Dinh, Dung C.           |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner's<br>Initials # | Cite<br>No. | U.S. Patent Document |              | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited<br>Document | Date of Publication or Issue<br>of Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|--|---|
|                          |             | Number               | Kind<br>Code |  |   |
|                          | 1.          | 5,852,715            |              | Raz et al.   | 12-22-1998  |
|                          | 2.          | 6,101,497            |              | Ofek   | 08-08-2000  |
|                          | 3.          | 6,209,002            |              | Gagne et al.                                       | 03-27-2001  |
|                          | 4.          | 6,370,626            |              | Gagne et al.                                       | 04-09-2002  |
|                          | 5.          | 6,401,178            |              | Gagne et al.                                       | 06-04-2002  |
|                          | 6.          | 6,542,974            |              | Gagne et al.                                       | 04-01-2003  |
|                          | 7.          | 6,581,143            |              | Gagne et al.                                       | 06-17-2003  |
|                          | 8.          | 6,631,477            |              | LeCrone et al.                                     | 10-07-2003  |
|                          | 9.          | 6,687,718            |              | Gagne et al.                                       | 02-03-2004  |
|                          | 10.         | 6,718,352            |              | Dang et al.  | 04-06-2004  |
|                          | 11.         | 6,754,682            |              | LeCrone et al.                                     | 06-22-2004  |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner's<br>Initials # | Cite<br>No. | Foreign Patent Document |        |              | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited<br>Document | Date of<br>Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Translation<br>(Y/N) |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------|--|---|----------------------|
|                          |             | Office/<br>Country      | Number | Kind<br>Code |  |   |                      |
|                          |             |                         |        |              |  |   |                      |
|                          |             |                         |        |              |  |   |                      |

**OTHER ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner's<br>Initials # | Cite<br>No | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item<br>(book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher,<br>city and/or country where published. | Translation<br>(Y/N) |
|--------------------------|------------|---|----------------------|
|                          |            |   |                      |
|                          |            |   |                      |
|                          |            |   |                      |

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

# EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

\*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. \_\_, filed \_\_, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE – No copies of U.S. patents, published U.S. patent applications, or pending, unpublished patent applications stored in the USPTO's Image File Wrapper (IFW) system, are included. See 37 CFR §1.98 and 1287OG163. Copies of all other patent(s), publication(s), unpublished, pending U.S. patent applications, or other information listed are provided as required by 37 CFR §1.98 unless 1) such copies were provided in an IDS in an earlier application that complies with 37 CFR §1.98, and 2) the earlier application is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120.]